

French and Serbians Gain Five Miles on 2-Mile Front

BULGARS REACH WESTERN FRONT

Regiments Arrive at Maubeuge to Co-Operate With German Troops.

FRENCH CONTINUE GAINS

Haig's Forces Progress in Direction of Le Verquere and in Flanders.

Amsterdam, Sept. 17.—Bulgarian regiments have arrived at Maubeuge to co-operate with the German troops on the western front, according to the Echo Belge.

British Closing In.

London, Sept. 17.—Last night witnessed a further closing in of the British lines northwest of St. Quentin. Field Marshal Haig in his report to day announced that the British had made progress in this area in the direction of Le Verquere.

The British also improved their positions slightly yesterday and during the night northwest of Bullecourt between Lens and La Bassée and northeast of Neuvechappelle (Flanders front).

In Region of Leintrey.

Paris, Monday, Sept. 17.—The French official statement today reads:

"Between the Oise and the Aisne French forces continued their progress during the night. East of Vauxhall we have taken 200 prisoners. Further south we have taken Vailly. In Lorraine we carried out a number of raids in the region of Leintrey and captured 100 prisoners."

600 Captives in One Kilometer.

Paris, Monday, Sept. 16.—Tonight's French official statement follows:

"During the day our troops continued their attacks in the region north-east and east of Nancy. In spite of the resistance of the Germans, we have advanced one kilometer on a front of about four kilometers. Sixty prisoners, two cannons and 105 machine guns were taken."

"Eastern Theater, Sept. 15.—This morning, after violent artillery preparation, French and Serbian troops attacked the German positions in the mountainous region of Dobropolje. The whole front positions of the enemy over a front of eleven kilometers were carried in spite of the difficulty of the ground. A number of prisoners and pieces of artillery fell into the hands of the allies. The operation continues to develop favorably. On other parts of the front there has been lively artillery activity."

Serbian and French aviators participated in the battle and efficiently assisted the infantry, bombarding the enemy lines of communication with machine guns."

With the British Army in France, Sept. 17.—(A.P.)—The advance of the British yesterday in Flanders was passed along the Ypres-Menin road and carried the British to within a mile of Hooge.

AEROPLANES PENETRATE BEHIND GERMAN LINES

Valuable Information Gathered by Observation Planes Thirty Miles Behind Lines.

(By Newton C. Parks, I. N. S. Staff)

With the American Army on the Lorraine front, Sept. 17.—(A.P.)—Two American observation planes today penetrated thirty miles behind the German lines, gathering valuable information. The flight was made through a heavy rain.

"The situation on this sector was generally quiet this morning, with the exception of artillery fire. The German lines were not active after our men had bombed and shelled them last night. French and Italian bombers did extensive damage to important enemy centers."

YOUNG GIRL SHOT TO DEATH IN JITNEY CAR

Search Being Made for Thomas Brown, Suspected of Murder of Mary Ione Crowder.

Petersburg, Va., Sept. 17.—Search is being made in various Virginia cities and towns today for Thomas Brown, of Buena Vista, Va., who is wanted here under suspicion of having murdered Mary Ione Crowder, 15 years old, who was shot while riding in a jitney automobile last night, dying shortly afterward. No motive has been assigned for the killing.

Joseph Crowder, the girl's father, said she left home with Brown to attend a moving picture show. Two other occupants of the automobile, John Watts, the owner and driver and Albert H. LaFortune, a passenger who occupied front seats at the time of the shooting, said they heard the shot and at first thought it was the noise of an exploding fire. LaFortune turned and saw that Miss Crowder's dress was burning and sought to extinguish the flames. LaFortune and Watts removed the girl to a physician's office, where she died, her escort disappearing.

BANDITS AMBUSHED COL. THORPE AND TEN MARINES

Brisk Fighting Followed, Ending in Killing of Twenty of Attacking Party.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Dominican bandits ambushed Col. George Cyrus Thorpe and ten men of the United States marine corps at a ford north of Dos Rios, Sept. 7. A brief report of the incident reaching marine corps headquarters today said in twenty minutes of brisk fighting twenty bandits were killed and the marines suffered no casualties. Another report told of the killing of three bandits by the Dominican National guard, offered by marines, in a skirmish near Hicay on Sept. 9. Col. Thorpe's home is at Northfield, Minn.

CARDINAL FARLEY IS THOUGHT TO BE DYING

Mamananick, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Cardinal Farley, archbishop of New York, is thought to be dying. Members of the prelate's official family gathered at his bedside reported that he had two sinking spells during the night and that there was virtually no hope of his recovery.

GUNS ROAR WEST OF METZ

While the great guns roar west of Metz, the Americans are pressing into new positions which are being linked up and strongly fortified as soon as occupied.

After the swift advance, which began on Thursday, it was necessary for the Americans and French to pause somewhat so that the new lines could be strengthened and guns and supplies could be moved up to the front in preparation for another blow.

Both the British and the French have made a further advance.

East of Ypres (in Belgium) the British line was extended, while the French strode forward into the outlying drive on the Chemin-des-Dames.

After a long lull on the central part of the Balkan front there has been a revival of activities between Lake Doiran and the Vardar river. French and Serbian troops drove forward in that zone, piercing two lines of Bulgarian trench positions.

The Bulgars were evidently taken by surprise, as a large number of guns were captured. This thrust centered astride the railway line which runs northward from Salonica into Serbia.

MURDERS WIFE AND SURRENDERS TO POLICE

NEW YORK NEWSPAPER MAN'S DREADFUL DEED.

Shoots Wife, but Fails to Carry Out Threat to Kill Himself.

New York, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Charles E. Chapin, city editor of the New York Evening World, who had been sought since he was found dead in a bullet wound in the head in a local hotel, surrendered to the police early today. Mrs. Chapin was Nellie Beebe, of Chicago.

Mr. Chapin had been in a highly nervous condition for several months. The tragedy was discovered through a letter to one of his associates on the Evening World. In the letter Mr. Chapin indicated that he was about to take his own life and the life of his wife. He spoke of severe pains in his head and expressed the belief that he was losing his mind as a result of a nervous breakdown, which was gradually developing.

"When you get this letter," he wrote, "I will be dead."

"My wife has been such a good pal I cannot leave her alone in the world." The hotel authorities were commiserated with. The Chapin apartment was entered and Mrs. Chapin's body was found. A general alarm was sent out for Mr. Chapin, charging him with homicide.

Mr. Chapin is a grandnephew of the late Russell Sage. He inherited \$25,000 under the Sage will, but started a legal movement to break the will. Mrs. Sage had a net worth of \$100,000. His salary had amounted to \$20,000 a year for several years.

Mr. Chapin was 67 years old and his wife was a few years younger.

Mr. Chapin was last seen leaving the West Sixty-eighth street police station this morning, although the customary neatness of his apparel indicated that he had not wandered about during the night. He asked for the precinct captain. When told that the captain was asleep, he said with apparent difficulty:

"I am Mr. Chapin. Who killed his wife at the Hotel Cumberland?"

"I don't remember anything about the case," Mr. Chapin said to the policeman in whose charge he was. "I had no recollection of having killed my wife until I saw the morning papers. I recall being in Prospect park (Brooklyn) yesterday afternoon and putting the pistol to my head and firing one shot. Afterward I saw a policeman and left the park. I haven't slept for four days."

A fully loaded .38-caliber automatic revolver was then handed to the policeman by Mr. Chapin.

Charles E. Chapin, famous for the skill with which he directed his reporters in the solution of murder mysteries, told in a police station today the story of how he killed his own wife.

Chapin shot her yesterday in their apartment in the Hotel Cumberland, and surrendered himself to the police after failing to carry out plans to end his own life. Smoking a cigar and continually pressing his hands to his head, he said that he had been driven to this desperate act by the demands of his creditors.

Approach of a policeman, the editor declared, prevented his suicide in Prospect park, Brooklyn, where he went after shooting his wife.

ALABAMA AVIATOR SHOTS DOWN HUN PLANE

His Own Machine Disabled and Falls, but Lieutenant Is Rescued by Americans.

(By Henry G. Wales)

With the American Army in Lorraine, Sept. 16.—(N. S.)—American troops, advancing on the front east of the Meuse river, "rescued" Lieut. Palmer Galliard, of Mobile, Ala., an aviator who had been forced by engine trouble to land after he had shot down a Hun plane.

Galliard had gotten lost amidst the wire east of St. Mihiel, which up to last Friday had been "no man's land."

After shooting down the German machine, Galliard received bullets in the motor of his own airplane, which put it out of commission. As a result the plane was wrecked when it landed.

Galliard had taken part in the same machine gun duel in the latter shooting down three German Fokkers.

Delive is a southerner, also, having lived in both Alabama and Mississippi.

The artillery duel in the region of Haincourt, southwest of Cambrai, yesterday increased to great intensity, says the official statement issued today by the German war office.

German troops recaptured the eastern fringe of the heights to the east of Vauxhall, northeast of Soissons, where the French have gained a footing.

BURNING TOWNS ALONG MOSELLE

Germans Intend Withdrawing Behind Hindenburg Line in Lorraine

IF PRESSED FURTHER

So Indicates Accumulating Evidence—Pont-A-Mousson Shelled by Foe.

American Army Headquarters in Lorraine, Monday, Sept. 16.—(Evening.)—Evidence is accumulating that the enemy intends withdrawing behind the Hindenburg line in Lorraine if he is pressed any further. He is burning towns along the Moselle.

Little Infantry Activity.

With the American Army in Lorraine, Monday, Sept. 16.—(7 p.m.)—Today was the quietest day on this front since the beginning of the offensive last Thursday. There was little infantry activity and only moderate artillery action.

Pont-A-Mousson and Dieulouard, four miles to the south, were shelled by the enemy, who mixed in a few mustard gas projectiles with his other shells.

The Germans apparently were digging themselves in behind the Hindenburg line today.

Entire Division Captured.

Prisoners taken report that the entire artillery of the Thirty-first German division was captured in the American operation on this front. The division that was used to bear the brunt of the attack in the lunge in the salient east of St. Mihiel it appears was the 35th Austrian division. It was ordered to maintain a holding action until all the German troops were withdrawn. In consequence of this it suffered very heavy losses, especially in prisoners.

Get Practical Experience.

The German prisoners said they had received orders to hold their positions unless strongly attacked. The non-commissioned officers were from an officers' school in the vicinity of Conflans. They said they had been ordered to the front for practical experience.

Perishing's Communique.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Local combats in which enemy prisoners were taken and the capture of a German artillery aviation activity in the St. Mihiel sector are reported in Gen. Pershing's communique for Monday.

Non-Coms Captured.

With the American Forces in Lorraine, Sept. 17.—(3 p.m.)—A. P. An American soldier in a raid made early this morning in the general region of Haumont, northwest of Thiaucourt, captured five non-commissioned officers and killed seven other non-commissioned officers.

URGED VATICAN TO SUPPORT PEACE MOVE

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN POWER APPEALED TO POPE.

Special Note Forwarded by Baron Burian Anent Recent Proposal.

Amsterdam, Sept. 17.—Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, today sent a note to the apostolic nuncio at Vienna, Monsignor Di Bonzo, stating that his government had decided to propose a peace conference and urging the Vatican to support it.

In the communication issued by the Austrian foreign office in connection with the note to the belligerents and neutrals regarding the proposed peace conference, it was announced that the step taken by Austria had been brought to the knowledge of the holy see by a special note. It was added that an appeal had been made to the pope's interest in peace. The Austrian note to the Vatican read as follows:

"After four years of unheard of struggle and gigantic sacrifices the battle which has been devastating Europe has not been able to bring about a decision. Animated by a spirit of reconciliation which already has been expressed in its note of Dec. 12, 1916, the Austro-Hungarian government has decided to approach all belligerent states and invite them to pave the way to a peace which will be honorable for all parties by a confidential and unbinding exchange of thought."

"Full of gratitude the Austro-Hungarian government hereby remembers that touching appeal which his holiness, the pope, sent to all belligerents last year with the exhortation that they seek an understanding and live again in brotherly concord. Firmly convinced that the holy father today also looks the suffering mankind will soon again enjoy the blessings of peace we confidently hope he will sympathize with our note and support it with his moral influence which is recognized all over the world."

"Animated by this thought, I request your excellency to submit the enclosed text of the note to his holiness."

NEGRO WOMAN KILLED; HUSBAND DISAPPEARS

Millard Simpson Accused of Shooting Wife—Body Found Lying in Pool of Blood.

With bullet holes in her neck and arm, and with her head showing unmistakable evidence of having been beaten, presumably with the butt of a revolver, the wife of Millard Simpson, colored, was found Tuesday morning lying in a pool of blood. The corpse was discovered in a house in Carr street alley, was very bloody.

Evidently the bullet that passed entirely through her neck severed the jugular vein. It appeared that she had been killed some time during the night. Her husband was not to be found, but he is accused of committing the crime, and a warrant charging him with murder has been sworn out by a relative of his wife.

At police headquarters and from another source it was learned that Simpson has been in police court on several occasions for alleged abuse and mistreatment of his wife. The cause for the killing is not known.

The body of the woman was removed to Wann's undertaking establishment.

DISCOVERED GERMAN HIDE IN CELLAR



HUNS DISCOVERED IN CELLAR. British official photograph shows four of German's typical 'fighting men.' They were discovered in a cellar of a ruined house by the 'Tommy' who is making the capture after the British attacking troops had passed through the village in chase of the fleeing Huns. The men are shown about to leave for the rear, carrying a comrade who has been wounded. Note the canisters in which the Germans carry their gas masks.

DESPERATE STRUGGLE TO MAINTAIN CONTROL

Bolsheviks Arranging for New Treaty Designed to Secure German and Austrian Aid.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Desperately struggling to maintain control of at least a part of Russia, the bolshevik government today is reported to be arranging a new treaty with the central powers. The treaty is believed here to be designed to secure German and Austrian help to try and regain control of the territory where the revolutionary movement daily is gaining strength. Amsterdam dispatches today make plain the position of the German-controlled bolsheviks. Nikolai Lenin, the bolshevik premier, is quoted as saying:

"The position on the Czech-Slovak front is daily becoming more urgent. We are daily becoming increasingly aware that alone we are powerless. For the soviet government there is only one way out, to conclude a defensive and offensive alliance with anti-bolshevik powers."

The power he means, officials say, naturally is Germany. But it is considered here as very unlikely that Germany can spare any men to aid the bolsheviks. It also is believed by no means certain that the Russians will follow Lenin and Trotsky much farther. Confidential information reaching this city shows that they are maintaining a most precarious hold by the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1915 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

In the seventeenth century Frederick Wilhelm the "great elector" created the first standing army in central Europe. When he died he left a country of a million and a half people and a standing army of 35,000 men. His son, Frederick I, replaced the crown as King of Prussia upon his own head in 1701 at Koenigsberg. His son, Frederick Wilhelm II, added "Germany" to the title. The "great elector" was a Hohenzollern. The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

The Hohenzollerns trace their ancestry back to Count Theodor Zollern in Swabia. The ancestral Hohenzollern castle near the Danube in southern Germany was built by Count Friedrich III, in the year 980. Friedrich VI, was the first Hohenzollern prince to rule in the province of Brandenburg, now a part of Prussia. In 1445 King Sigismund made him Margrave of Brandenburg, and two years later he became elector, that is, he was elected to rule by all the other princes, a form of royal democracy.

WATCHING FOR NEXT STRIKE

Where will the allies strike next? This was the big question in the minds of military critics today.

The first offensive was launched on the Marne on July 18, and was followed up by a great thrust on the Picardy and Flanders fronts. Then the French began forging ahead of the battle line between the Picardy plains and the Aisne. The Belgians delivered a stroke northeast of Ypres and this was followed by the brilliant and victorious drive of the Americans between the Meuse and Moselle rivers. Only the extreme tip of the battlefront, bordering the North sea and the Swiss frontier have been untouched by active battle during the past months.

3,000 CAPTIVES BAGGED BY SERBS

Since Launching Big Offensive Blow on Balkan Front Aided by French.

JUGO-SLAVS GIVE SUPPORT Whole of Sokolridge Taken From Bulgarians—Kozjak Reached.

Salonica, Sept. 17.—Launching a great offensive blow on the Balkan front, French and Serbian troops advanced five miles on a line two and one-half miles wide, it was officially announced today.

More than 3,000 prisoners and twenty-four guns were captured. Allied casualties were quite small.

The French and Serbians rivaled each other in tenacity, bravery and sacrifice.

Aviators gave proof of extraordinary bravery and activity.

The whole of Sokolridge was captured from the Bulgarians.

Jugo-Slav troops, fighting with the allies, reached the important position of Kozjak.

On Sept. 17.—Serbian and French troops continued the offensive in Macedonia and have progressed more than five miles, according to a Serbian official statement received here.

The advancing allies have occupied an important position of ridge. The allied troops have captured more than 3,000 prisoners and twenty-four guns. Their casualties have been slight.

The allies are moving forward on a front of more than twelve miles and have taken the village of Grad shnit, twenty miles east of Monastir. A Jugo-Slav division is fighting with the Serbs and French and has reached Kozjak, the most important position in the region of the offensive.

Sofia Reports Struggle.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Sept. 15 via London.—France-Serbian troops, in an attack on the Bulgarian lines in Macedonia, early Sunday night, after a desperate struggle in occupying the Sokol, Dobropolje and Vetrnik positions, says today's war office announcement.

SHELLS DID NOT EXPLODE

U. S. Artillery Officers Say of German Missiles in Marne Retreat.

With the American Army in France, Sept. 17.—(Correspondent A. P.)—American artillery officers estimated recently that at certain stages of the German retreat the shells of the enemy failed to explode. One night after the Germans crossed the Vesle the enemy fired seventy-two shells of large caliber. The shells were supposed to be quartered and artillery experts reported that only four exploded.

None of the American officers suggested that the German shells were deteriorating generally. There had been day after day of rain during the retreat and it was believed quite possible that in the withdrawal the Germans had not been able to take the usual precautions against rust.

One officer suggested that possibly the Germans had been firing old shells rather than new ones, and the shells realizing that only a few were exploding, but preferring to keep the big guns pounding away merely in an effort to keep up the noise of the retreat.

The president of the American officers suggested that the German shells were deteriorating generally. There had been day after day of rain during the retreat and it was believed quite possible that in the withdrawal the Germans had not been able to take the usual precautions against rust.

One officer suggested that possibly the Germans had been firing old shells rather than new ones, and the shells realizing that only a few were exploding, but preferring to keep the big guns pounding away merely in an effort to keep up the noise of the retreat.

The president of the American officers suggested that the German shells were deteriorating generally. There had been day after day of rain during